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UNION COUNTY MAN SENTENCED ON INSURANCE FRAUD CHARGE Received workers' compensation benefits while employed

FRANKFORT, Ky. (Feb. 14, 2007) – Dale Lester Hughes, 51, of Morganfield, has been sentenced on an insurance fraud charge after making a false statement in order to receive workers' compensation benefits.

Earlier this year, Hughes entered a guilty plea to one felony count in Union Circuit Court. At his Feb. 12 sentencing, he received five years in prison, probated if he makes restitution of about \$3,400 to Kentucky Employers' Mutual Insurance (KEMI).

According to court documents, Hughes received workers' compensation benefits following surgery for a work injury. In a statement to KEMI, Hughes denied working since the surgery but actually was employed by Big Ridge Coal Company in Illinois.

The case was investigated by the Kentucky Office of Insurance Fraud Investigation Division.